

Filed for intro on 02/15/95  
House Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

Senate No. SB1531  
By Holcomb

AN ACT to enact the "Tennessee Comprehensive Health, Safety and Environmental Planning Act".

WHEREAS, this state and its citizens expend millions of dollars in public and private funds annually to implement and comply with health, safety and environmental regulations; and

WHEREAS, health, safety, and environmental decisions adopted by this state should be based upon scientific knowledge in order to address legitimate risks to people and to the environment in a manner that shows measurable results commensurate with the costs; and

WHEREAS, citizens need to know whether the state is achieving the goals expressed above and need to be fully informed about the costs, benefits and policies that underlie regulatory decisions by agencies of this state; and

WHEREAS, the goal of state health, safety and environmental programs should be to provide protection to citizens in a manner that addresses true risks in a cost-effective manner; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee Comprehensive Health, Safety and Environmental Planning Act of 1995".

SECTION 2. In order to protect public health, safety and the environment and to expend state resources efficiently and effectively, the general assembly declares it to be the policy of the state to:

(a) base discretionary expenditures of state resources on a comprehensive risk evaluation and plan;

(b) provide that the substantial expenditure of public and private resources results in measurable and definable improvements in the health, safety and environment of the citizens of Tennessee;

(c) provide that an evaluation of comparative risks is used to encourage and direct the appropriate allocation of resources to address issues at a level commensurate with the risk they pose and, therefore, assure that attention is focused on the concerns posing the most serious threat to the health, safety and environment of the citizens of Tennessee;

(d) provide that state health, safety and environmental initiatives be based upon scientific knowledge in order that the risks to the citizens of Tennessee are addressed in an efficient manner, and so that this knowledge can contribute to flexible solutions such as education, voluntary and market-based approaches, and performance standards that maximize the utilization of the available resources;

(e) undertake or require only those actions necessary to comply with the provisions of any federal mandate upon the state and not to adopt state requirements which exceed or are more stringent than the federally mandated requirements; and

(f) provide information to the public, general assembly, and governor's office for use in developing legislation, regulations, policies and processes which result in improvement of the health, safety and environment of the citizens of Tennessee.

SECTION 3 This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.